



United States Agency for International Development
Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

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CONTACT: Mirnesa Bajramovic
033/619-211, ext. 111

USAID Announces Loan Portfolio Sale

Sarajevo, August 29th, 2003— The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is pleased to announce the completion of the first phase of the sale of USAID's loan portfolio to licensed banks in BiH. Four banks: Raiffeisen Bank, HVB Bank, UPI Bank and Nova Bank Bijeljina have purchased 195 loans with a face value of approximately KM 44.6 million. All sale proceeds will be used to support economic development projects in BiH.

The U.S. Government, through USAID, launched the Business Development Program (BDP) in 1996 to support the recovery of the local economy by disbursing loans to private enterprises. BDP has approved nearly 600 loans to viable small and medium size firms, valued at over KM 275.5 million. These loans have created approximately 10,000 jobs and sustained an additional 28,000.

Given the significant progress made by the banking sector, USAID has begun the transition of its BDP program. After the first quarter of this year, USAID stopped approving direct loans and began transferring its lending operations to commercial banks.

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KONTAKT: Mirnesa Bajramovic
033/619-211 lok. 111

SAOPSTENJE ZA MEDIJE

Sarajevo, 29. august, 2003— Americka agencija za medjunarodni razvoj (USAID) ima zadovoljstvo objaviti zavrsetak prve faze prodaje svog kreditnog portfolia licenciranim bankama u BiH. Cetiri banke Raiffeisen banka, HVB Banka, UPI Banka i Nova Banka su kupile dio portfolia koji cine 195 kredita priblizne nominalne vrijednosti od 44,6 miliona KM.

Americka vlada je putem USAID-a pokrenula Program poslovnog razvoja (BDP) 1996. godine u cilju pruzanja podrške obnovi domace ekonomije plasiranjem kredita vitalnim privatnim preduzecima. BDP je odobrio gotovo 600 kredita malim i srednjim preduzecima u ukupnoj vrijednosti od 275,5 miliona KM. Zahvaljujuci ovim kreditima otvoreno je oko 10,000 radnih mjesta, dok je preko 28,000 odrzano.

S obzirom na znacajan napredak u bankarskom sektoru, USAID je incirao tranziciju BDP programa. Nakon prvog kvartala ove godine, USAID je prestao odobravati direktne kredite i poceo je sa transferom kreditnih aktivnosti na komercijalne banke.

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